noon meal and all other educational needs of the community. In view of the fact that the Pulayas were long an illiterate race, the minimum of marks required for promotion in schools should be reduced by 50 per cent. So also in regard to attendance the minimum required should be reduced to two-thirds. Pulaya boys should be admitted to public examination without payment of the prescribed admission fees as they were too poor to pay even that. They should also be exempted from the regulations in regard to dress. They could not afford the luxury of coats or shirts. As was done for the Mahomedans, a special Inspector to watch the educational progress of the Pulaya community should be appointed.

The Police Department should have instructions to take immediate action in cases where the Pulayas were molested by others. They should be given at half the tariff rates 200 candies of *maruthi*, *ventekku* and other timber from the Ranni reserve.

16,000 acres of land had been earmarked for assignment in the several taluks of the State. Out of these, only 1,345 acres of land had been registered in the names of the Hindu Pulayas. 243 applications for registry of lands were still pending disposal. This might be due to the fact that the applications related to lands which could not be assigned. But it was also due to the fact that suitable lands were registered to people other than the Pulayas. The system of sale of lands by auction should be stopped until the needs of the Pulaya community were satisfied. In taluks where there were no *tarisu* lands available, river *porambokes*, road *porambokes*, grazing grounds, silted up tanks, etc., should be registered to them. The following is a list of lands which the Pulayas wished to be registered in their names :—

Quilon taluk.

Portions of Survey Nos. 1954, 2324, 2795, 2385, 3265, 4187 and 781 in Nedumpanakkal *pakuthi.*

Kottarakkara taluk.

Survey No. 295/1 in Kottarakara *pakuthi.*

Ambalapuzha taluk.

The Illichira grazing ground.

Vaikam taluk.

Survey No. 417/1 D in Talayazham *pakuthi*, Vechur *kari*, 457·51 acres. Besides these, the swampy areas within the reserved forests should be disafforested and registered to them.

The Member also requested that the pay of the *Proverthikars* should be enhanced as they were a poor class of Government servants who demanded their sympathy. The necessity for affixing half a rupee stamp on applications for registry of land, etc., should be dispensed with in favour of the Pulayas.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kurumban Daivattan, the list of *puduval* lands will be examined by the Land Revenue Commissioner and the needful will be done. As regards noon-day meals to the school-going boys of the community, I shall consider the matter in consultation with the Financial Secretary and the Chief Secretary, and see if the necessary arrangements can be made.

2. The Commissioner of Police and other heads of departments will be given instructions to see that the members of your community are not given any trouble.

3. Your other points will be considered.

159. The needs of the Saliya community.

MR. S. M. SUBRAHMANYAN (*Member, Nominated*) said that 95 per cent. of the Saliyas were daily wage-earners who could not afford to get for their children the benefit of higher education even though the Government were spending large sums of money every year on the Education Department. Saliya pupils should be given half-fee concession in schools and colleges.

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There were a few qualified men in the community. They were not able to gain any footing in the service. The Saliya community was not represented in the Nagercoil Panchayat Court even though the Saliyas formed a third of the population of the town. One member from that community should be nominated evey year to the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. Following the principle of communal representation accepted by other Governments, the Saliyas were entitled to one seat on the Legislative Council and one member from that community should be nominated by the Government.

Some educated youths from among the weaving classes should be given foreign scholarships and trained in textile industry and given a suitable place in the Department of Industries in order that he might give proper instruction to the other members of his community in improved methods of weaving.

The S. M. R. V. Institute at Nagercoil should be rendered more useful to the weavers. There was not enough stock of reeds, shuttles, healds and other weaving accessories available for sale. There were several qualified men from the Saliya community who were not able to get any appointment in that institute. No new or artistic designs in weaving were taught in the institute. There were not proper men to work the costly machines purchased for sizing and other processes connected with the weaving industry. Yarn for one full year was stocked when its price was going down. Nearly Rs. 5,000 were spent for building rent, salaries of officers, stipends, etc. But there was no corresponding benefit. These matters should be taken note of by the Director of Industries and the defects remedied. An experienced man from the Saliya community, if appointed as the Superintendent of the institute, would be able to manage the institute more economically and profitably.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Subrahmanyan, the Saliya community is not worse off than several other 'backward' communities in education. They share equally with others fee concessions and also scholarships that are given to backward classes. I do not think there is justification for singling your community out from other backward classes for exceptional treatment or for the grant of further concessions.

2. What you say about the representation of the community in the public bodies, public service, in the Panchayat courts, etc., will be borne in mind by the Government. The Government are greatly obliged for your practical suggestions for the encouragement of weaving, particularly in relation to the Technical Institute at Nagercoil. All your suggestions will receive careful consideration.

160. Needs of the Vilakkattalanayar community.

MR. V. S. PADMANABHAN NAIR (*Member, Nominated*) said that such backward communities as his could push themselves forward only with the kind cooperation of the Government. Unless the community was represented in the Assembly, it would not be possible for the members to appraise the Government of their special needs. One member from the community should therefore be nominated every year to the Assembly.

There were a few boys and girls of the community who were qualified for the public service, but were unable to get any appointment in any branch of the administration. This seriously deterred them from taking to education. Qualified men from the community should therefore be appointed in the service immediately and all English School Final Certificate holders should be admitted into the Colleges in the State.

There were skilled physicians in the community. Those of them who had no examination qualification required for a grant-in-aid or appointment in the Ayurveda Department should be exempted from the rule and given suitable places in the department and grants-in-aid.

The twenty-five year rule in regard to appointments in the service should be relaxed in favour of the members of the community. There was one in that community who had passed the weaving test. He should be appointed as weaving instructor in a Vernacular school. Girls of the community who might not have

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